

Please cancel claims 1-2, 4-13, and 18-23.

The following listing of claims supercedes all prior claim listings.

Claims 1-26 (Cancelled).

Claim 27 (New): A method for presenting hierarchical categorized directory information via a plurality of arranged visual elements on a computer-enabled user interface, wherein visual elements represent directory system entities and the arrangement of elements represents the interrelationships of the corresponding directory system entities, the method comprising:

displaying one or more elements representing one or more directory system entities using a first thread;

receiving a user selection of a displayed element; and

using a second thread, retrieving data associated with the selected displayed element while others of the displayed plurality of arranged visual elements remain responsive to initiate further data retrieval while the data associated with the initially selected displayed element is being retrieved.

Claim 28 (New): The method of claim 27, further comprising:

placing a request for retrieval of the data associated with the selected displayed element in a queue; and

processing the request from the queue asynchronously with respect to the displaying step.

Claim 29 (New): The method of claim 27, wherein the first thread is a main thread and the second thread is a worker thread executing asynchronously with respect to the main thread.

Claim 30 (New): The method of claim 27, wherein the retrieved data is stored in a cache, the method further comprising obtaining the data from the cache for display on a user interface.

Claim 31 (New): The method of claim 27, further comprising:
receiving a user request to display a partially retrieved portion of the data;
in response to the user request, obtaining the partially retrieved portion from the cache; and
displaying the partially retrieved portion of the data.

Claim 32 (New): The method of claim 27, wherein the displayed elements are arranged as nodes of a graphical hierarchy.

Claim 33 (New): The method of claim 27, wherein the graphical hierarchy is a tree.

Claim 34 (New): The method of claim 27, further comprising:
receiving a user request for cancellation of the data retrieval; and
in response to the user request, canceling retrieval of the data associated with the selected displayed element.

Claim 35 (New): A method for presenting hierarchical categorized directory information via a plurality of arranged visual elements on a computer-enabled user interface, wherein visual elements represent directory system entities and the arrangement of elements represents the interrelationships of the corresponding directory system entities, the method comprising:
displaying the plurality of arranged visual elements on the user interface via a first thread;
receiving a user selection of a plurality of the elements;
receiving a user request to boost the retrieval priority of a particular one of the selected plurality of elements;

in response to receiving the user request, boosting the priority of the particular selected element; and

retrieving data associated with the plurality of the elements via a second thread giving priority to data associated with the particular selected element, so that the plurality of arranged visual elements remain responsive to user interaction while data associated with the plurality of the elements is being retrieved.

Claim 36 (New): The method of claim 35, wherein the first thread is a main thread and the second thread is a worker thread executing asynchronously with respect to the main thread.

Claim 37 (New): The method of claim 36, further comprising the worker thread notifying the main thread that the data is available after retrieving the data.

Claim 38 (New): The method of claim 36, further comprising the worker thread placing the retrieved data in a cache and the main thread accessing the data from the cache and displaying the data.

Claim 39 (New): The method of claim 38, further comprising:
receiving a user request to display a partially retrieved portion of the data;
in response to the user request, obtaining the partially retrieved portion from the cache; and
displaying the partially retrieved portion of the data.

Claim 40 (New): The method of claim 35, wherein the displayed elements are arranged as nodes of a graphical hierarchy.

Claim 41 (New): The method of claim 40, wherein the graphical hierarchy is a tree.

Claim 42 (New): The method of claim 35, further comprising the second thread retrieving data for populating the hierarchy.

Claim 43 (New): The method of claim 35, further comprising displaying the retrieved data, wherein the retrieved data is displayed in a different screen than the plurality of arranged visual elements.

Claim 44 (New): A computer-readable medium having thereon computer-executable instructions for executing a method for presenting hierarchical categorized directory information via a plurality of arranged visual elements on a computer-enabled user interface, wherein visual elements represent directory system entities and the arrangement of elements represents the interrelationships of the corresponding directory system entities, the instructions comprising instructions for:

- displaying the plurality of arranged visual elements on the user interface via a first thread;

- receiving a user selection of a plurality of the elements;

- receiving a user request to boost the priority of a particular selected element; and,

- in response to receiving the user request, boosting the priority of the particular selected element;

- retrieving data associated with the plurality of the elements via a second thread giving priority to data associated with the particular selected element, so that the plurality of arranged visual elements remain responsive to user interaction while data associated with the plurality of the elements is being retrieved.

Claim 45 (New): A computer-readable medium having thereon computer-executable instructions for executing a method for presenting hierarchical categorized directory information via a plurality of arranged visual elements on a computer-enabled user interface, wherein visual elements represent directory system entities and the arrangement of elements represents the interrelationships of the corresponding directory system entities, the instructions comprising instructions for:

displaying one or more elements representing one or more directory system entities using a first thread;

receiving a user selection of a displayed element; and

using a second thread, retrieving data associated with the selected displayed element while others of the displayed plurality of arranged visual elements remain responsive to initiate further data retrieval while the data associated with the initially selected displayed element is being retrieved.